

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the pending application. The Office Action dated April 7, 2006 has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

By this Response, claims 29 and 37 have been amended, and claims 34 and 44 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein. No new matter has been added. Claims 29, 31, 33, 35, 37-38, 40, 42-43, 45 and 47 are pending in the application with claim 47 being withdrawn from consideration. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection in view of the above amendments and the following remarks are respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 29, 31, 33-35, 37-38, 40 and 42-45 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,924,865, issued to Ohta et al. (hereafter “Ohta”) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,094,250, issued to Choi et al. (hereafter “Choi”). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection because neither Ohta nor Choi, analyzed alone or in any combination, teaches or suggests the combined features recited in the claims of the present application. In particular, Choi and Ohta fail to teach an in-plane switching liquid crystal display device that includes, among other features, “an auxiliary common electrode on the second insulating layer, wherein the auxiliary common electrode contacts respective first ends of the common electrodes and electrically contacts the common line via a contact hole through the first and second insulating layers”, as recited in independent claim 29 of the present application.

Ohta and Choi also fail to teach a method of fabricating an in-plane switching liquid crystal display device that includes “forming an auxiliary common electrode on the second insulating layer, wherein the auxiliary common electrode electrically contacts respective first ends of the common electrodes and electrically contacts the common line via a contact hole through the first and second insulating layers”, as recited in independent claim 37 of the present application.

The Office Action states on page 3 that “Ohta et al. do not disclose a capacitor electrode overlapping the common line to form a storage capacitor.” To remedy this deficient

teachings, the Office Action relies upon Choi. Based upon the teachings of the capacitor electrode 27b in Choi, the Office Action concludes that it would have been obvious to one skilled in the art to “employ a capacitor formed by a capacitor electrode and a common line as well as connected to the pixel electrode as shown by Choi”. Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner’s analysis and submits no combination of Ohta and Choi provides all the combined features recited in the claims of the present application.

Choi discloses “a first storage capacitor electrode 27a and a second storage capacitor electrode 27b are formed on the same layer, that is on the gate insulating layer 2, with the second common electrodes 22c and 22d and they are connected to the pixel electrode 25 through contacts 29e and 29f, respectively” (col. 3, lines 17-22 and fig. 2A). However, Applicant submits Choi, like Ohta, fails to teach “an auxiliary common electrode on the second insulating layer, wherein the auxiliary common electrode electrically connects respective first ends of the common electrodes and electrically contacts the common line via a contact hole through the first and second insulating layers”, as recited in independent claim 29, and a method of fabricating an in-plane switching liquid crystal display including “forming an auxiliary common electrode on the second insulating layer, wherein the auxiliary common electrode electrically contacts respective first ends of the common electrodes and electrically contacts the common line via a contact hole through the first and second insulating layers”, as recited in independent claim 37 of the present application.

Because neither Ohta nor Choi teach at least the above features of claims 29 and 37, no combination of Ohta and Choi would provide an in-plane switching liquid crystal display and method of fabricating having the combined features recited in independent claim 29 and 37. Accordingly, independent claims 29 and its dependent claims 31, 33 and 35, and independent claim 37 and its dependent claims 38, 40, 42-43 and 45 are allowable over any combination of Ohta and Choi. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection are respectfully requested.

Applicant believes the foregoing amendments and remarks place the application in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to

discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911. Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

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Respectfully submitted,

By Valerie P. Hayes
Valerie P. Hayes
Registration No.: 53,005
McKENNA LONG & ALDRIDGE LLP
1900 K Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20006
(202) 496-7500
Attorneys for Applicant